

REMARKS

In accordance with the foregoing, claims 1, 5, 6, 7, 21 have been amended and claim 4 has been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer.

Claims 12-20 and 22-24 have been allowed. Claims 1-32 are pending and under consideration.

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. § 102:

Claims 1-3 and 21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Taniguchi (JP Patent Publication No. 61-119921).

Regarding claims 1-2, the Office Action notes that Taniguchi discloses that a cooking cavity 1 provided with a lever passing hole (the hole for the turntable shaft 5a) on the outer bottom surface of the cooking cavity.

Furthermore, regarding claims 3 and 21, the Office Action sets forth that Taniguchi discloses "the connecting rod 8 and the turntable shaft 5a are construed to be the claimed "lever".

In the Office Action, at page 3, item 5, the Examiner indicated that claims 4-11 and 25-32 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. Applicants respectfully submit that claim 1 has been rewritten to incorporate the subject matter of original claim 4, and should now be allowable. Additionally, Applicants respectfully submit that claims 2-3, 4-11 and 25-32 which ultimately depend from claim 1, should also now be allowable.

Claim 21 has been amended to incorporate the subjected matter of original claim 4. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that claim 21 patentably distinguishes over the cited art.

Allowed claims:

Claims 12-20 and 22-24 have been allowed.

Conclusion:

There being no further outstanding objections or rejections, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. An early action to that effect is courteously solicited.

Finally, if there are any formal matters remaining after this response, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned to attend to these matters.

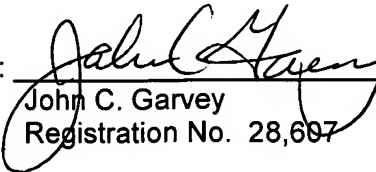
If there are any additional fees associated with filing of this Amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Serial No. 10/697,646

Respectfully submitted,

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